

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /080 W
-----191351Z 119343 /43

R 180713Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 13
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AS, ID, PT, PFOR, SHUM
SUBJ: TIMOR

REF: CANBERRA 1771

1. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR WASHINGTON ON MARCH 20, FONMIN PEACOCK DID EVERYTHING HE COULD IN PARLIAMENT TO DE-FUSE THE ROW WITH INDONESIA OVER THE ALLEGATIONS OF ATROCITIES IN EAST TIMOR. IN PARLIAMENT, PEACOCK SAID THE THREAT OF MASS DEMONSTRATIONS BY INDONESIA'S FONMIN MALIK WAS AN QTE OFF-THE-CUFF END QTE REMARK. PEACOCK ALSO RE-EMPHASIZED THAT DUNN WAS QTE ACTING IN A PURELY PRIVATE AND UNOFFICIAL CAPACITY. NEITHER HE NOR HIS REPORT HAS ANY OFFICIAL STATUS.
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END QTE

2. ALSO IN PARLIAMENT, AN OPPOSITION BACKBENCHER, MR. KEN FRY, WHO WAS WITH AUSTRALIAN FORCES IN TIMOR DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR, DEMANDED THE RECALL OF AUSTRALIA'S AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA, MR. WOOLCOTT; ALP LEADERSHIP CONTENDER, BILL HAYDEN, ALSO ENTERED THE FRAY IN A STRONG

STATEMENT IN WHICH HE QUERIED WHETHER QTE AUSTRALIA COULD IGNORE THE FACT THAT A SMALL VULNERABLE TERRITORY ONLY A FEW HUNDRED KILOMETERS FROM DARWIN COULD BE ANNEXED BY INDONESIA IN VIOLATION OF THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE ITS OWN FUTURE; END QTE AND PEACOCK GAVE ASSURANCES THAT JAMES DUNN WOULD ENJOY NORAML AUSTRALIAN DIPLOMATIC QTE PROTECTION END QTE WHILE HE WAS IN THE U.S. TESTIFYING AGAINST INDONESIA'S POLICY. (FOLLOWING AN ALLEGED THREAT BY LT. GENERAL YOGA SUJANA, IDENTIFIED AS THE HEAD OF INDONESIAN INTELLIGENCE, QTE TO TAKE COUNTER MEASURES AGAINST MR. DUNN, END QTE DEPUTY OPPOSITION LEADER UREN CABLED CONGRESS-MAN FRASER'S COMMITTEE QTE TO SEEK THE FULL PROTECTION OF AMERICAN LAW END QTE FOR MR. DUNN.)

3. IN ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT, THE FRASER GOVERNMENT IS FACING A SENATE BACK-BENCH REVOLT OVER ITS DECISION TO OPPOSE A COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO THE TIMOR SITUATION. A POSSIBLE COMPROMISE WOULD BE FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO AGREE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY UNDER THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE UNDER THE CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP OF SENATOR PETER SIM. THIS WOULD ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT TO BURY THE ISSUE, RATHER THAN EVADE IT. IN THE MEANTIME, THE AGE AND OTHER LEADING AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPERS HAVE CONTINUED TO ATTACK EDITORIALY THE ALLEGED THREAT BY MALIK TO STAGE MASS DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN JAKARTA.

4. DUNN WILL ALSO DEPART FOR WASHINGTON ON MARCH 20.

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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